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AN MEMORIAM.

MON. GEORGE T. COBB

AND

J. BOYD HEADLEY,

AUGUST 6, 1870.

A circular library stamp is located to the right of the date. It contains the text "LIBRARY OF THE NEW YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY" around the perimeter and "NEW YORK" at the bottom.

NEWARK, N. J.:

PRINTED AT THE DAILY ADVERTISER OFFICE.

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## IN MEMORIAM.

DURING the early part of the summer of 1870, the Hon. GEORGE T. COBB, State Senator from Morris County, visited the White Sulphur Springs in Virginia, with his daughter, for the recuperation of his health, which had for some time previous been failing. He returned in the early part of July much benefited by his visit, and presided at the Annual Convention of the Morris County Sunday School Association, of which he was President, held in the First Presbyterian Church of Morristown on Tuesday, July 12th. He was also present at the great Temperance demonstration held on the Denville Camp Meeting grounds on the 28th of the same month, and on that day made arrangements with the Railroad Company and others, looking to the further increase of facilities and improvements for the grounds. Finding that the air of the White Sulphur Springs was beneficial to him, he determined to revisit them, and with Governor Randolph, Senator Little and J. Boyd Headly, Esq., made up a party for that purpose. The Governor and Senator Little were detained, however, a few days, but Mr. Cobb and Mr. Headley left on the day appointed, Friday, August 5th, the others agreeing to follow them. They left the Morristown Depot for Newark, at 7:45 P. M., and crossed at the latter city to the line of the New Jersey Railroad.

At half-past 8 o'clock on the morning of the succeeding Monday, the Mayor of the City of Morristown received the following telegraphic despatch :

GREENBRIER, WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, )  
W. Va., Aug. 7th. }

*To the Mayor of Morristown :* George T. Cobb and friend, Mr. Headley, killed by accident occurring to train last night. Break intelligence to his family.

(Signed,)

DAVID WATTS.

This fearful news spread rapidly through the city, and was confirmed at half-past nine, on the arrival of the morning papers. Each and every member of the community had known and loved both gentlemen ; and the shock,

as of the death of some member of their own family, came home to all. Business was for the time almost entirely neglected, and a general feeling of gloom pervaded every household. The news was broken to Mrs. Cobb, Mrs. J. Boyd Headley and Mrs. Col. Headley, the mother of one of the deceased, by gentlemen, whose task was a most unpleasant one.

Governor Randolph was immediately communicated with, and a little crowd of the most prominent citizens gathered, to make all necessary arrangements for the procuring at once of the bodies.

Telegraphic despatches were sent by the Mayor of the city to Mayor Ellison, of Richmond, requesting him to provide everything necessary for the removal of the bodies to Richmond, and also to Mr. David Watts, a friend of Mr. Cobb's residing at White Sulphur Springs, and who had sent the first telegram. Governor Randolph also telegraphed to Judge Ould, of Richmond, to a like intent.

In the mean time the friends of the deceased and the city authorities, had determined to send Messrs. James V. Bentley, a brother-in law of Mr. Headley, and Edmund D. Halsey, together with Mr. Lewis D. Bunn the Undertaker, and his assistant Mr. Burnet, to the scene of the calamity, to bring on the bodies to New Jersey. This committee left the city by the 3 o'clock train in the afternoon, and New York by the similar train to that on which Messrs. Cobb and Headley had gone. They bore with them the following letter from Governor Randolph.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, Trenton, Aug. 8th, 1870. }

*To his Honor the Mayor of Richmond, Va., and others:*

Information has just reached this department that two of our most respected citizens have been suddenly killed by the railroad accident at Greenbrier. We have delegated Messrs. Halsey, Bentley and Bunn to proceed to Richmond and take charge of the remains of Senator Cobb and Mr. Headley, and our people will be most grateful to you and all others who will assist them, as I feel assured you will, in their sad mission.

Whatever these gentlemen may require the State will be answerable for.

Very respectfully,

THEODORE F. RANDOLPH, Governor.

Mr. George W. Barker, terminal Agent of the New York and Washington through line, furnished them with a letter authorizing all employees on the railroads, to give them especial despatch and accommodations on their sad mission. Mr. S. Schoch, the Superintendent of the Morris & Essex Railroad, also gave assurance that a special train would be held in readiness to bear the committee and the bodies to Morristown at any hour, of the day or night, when they might return. After this committee had left the city, telegrams were received from Mayor Ellison stating that the bodies would be placed in metallic coffins, and placed in the receiving vault of the Holly-



wood Cemetery, at Richmond, to await the arrival of the friends. The committee travelled night and day, and going by the way of Washington and Aquia Creek, reached Richmond at 3 o'clock in the afternoon of Tuesday. On their arrival they were met by Mayor Ellison, who during their short stay exerted himself in every possible way, to aid them with celerity in their sad mission. His kindness to the committee, and indeed the kindness and sympathies of the people of Richmond, will long be remembered with heartfelt gratitude by the citizens of Morristown, the whole community of Morris County, and by the many friends of the deceased gentlemen, elsewhere.

The kindnesses experienced at the hands of Mr. J. L. Carrington, Mr. James F. Netherland, Mr. J. A. Belvin, General Wykham, Captain Hollingshead, and Mr. Koontz, deserve especial mention.

At Richmond, the fact first became patent to the committee, that the general desire of the friends of the deceased to look once more upon their faces, and for which purpose ice preserving cases had been brought with them by the undertakers, would have to be abandoned. The bodies had remained so long uncoffined in the sultry air of Virginia, together with being in full health when killed, and their having already been placed in metallic coffins, rendered it impossible to arrest decomposition, which had set in. The bodies had arrived in Richmond about 12 hours before the arrival of the committee, and so after the sad identification had been gone through with, the coffins were placed in boxes, and nothing remained but for the committee to set their faces homeward with their sad burden. Mayor Ellison remained with them from the time of their arrival in the afternoon till that of their leaving in the train at 8:45 the same evening. A special car was placed at their disposal by the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad Co., with the permission to take the same through to New Jersey, but unfortunately at Washington it was found that the car was of the narrow tread wheel, and had to be left there. Another car was, however, placed at their disposal, and which was taken through to Newark.

During the absence of the committee, communication had been freely held with them by telegram by Mayor Halsey, of Morristown, and arrangements in accordance with their plans had been effected. When the telegram arrived which stated that the bodies would be brought on in metallic coffins and not on ice, as at first intended, a general feeling of sorrow permeated through the community, as now no hopes of looking on the faces of the dead were to be held. Up to this time no definite news had arrived as to the particulars of the accident, the New York papers of Monday the 8th, simply giving the names of the eleven killed and those of some twenty wounded. All the leading journals of New York published obituary notices of the lives of both Messrs. Cobb and Headley, as did also those of Newark, Elizabeth, Trenton, Paterson and many other cities. An intense anxiety to learn fuller

particulars was evinced, which however remained ungratified until the return of the committee.

During Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, as the sad news reached different localities throughout the county, prominent citizens came to Morristown to speak with hushed voices of the fearful news, and to make arrangements to do honor to the dead. A meeting of the Common Council was held at noon of Wednesday, the following members being present: Mayor Halsey, Recorder Ayers, Aldermen Speer and Burnet, Councilmen Canfield, Dalrymple, Ross, Sayre and Pierson. In the absence of the Clerk James V. Bentley, who had been deputed to go to Richmond, the Mayor requested J. Farrand Tuttle to act as Clerk.

After calling the Council to order, Mayor Halsey stated that in consequence of the terrible calamity which had so suddenly come upon us, he had deemed it proper to call a Special Meeting of the Council for the purpose of consultation, as to what course the public authorities should adopt; that the deceased were men occupying high political positions, and strongly identified with the incorporation of our City, and warmly endeared to all of our people—and that it was eminently fit and proper that the Council should, as representatives of the whole people, give some public expression of affection and sympathy which pervades the entire community. And in order the better to do this, he proposed the adoption of the following resolutions, viz :

WHEREAS, On the eighth instant, intelligence was received in this City of the sudden death on Saturday evening last, by accident on the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad, of Hon. George I. Cobb and J. Boyd Headley, Esq., two of the most prominent and respected citizens of this State; therefore,

*Be it Resolved*, That the Common Council do take official action in respect to this sad bereavement, which this City especially has sustained in the death of one who was identified with the growth and history of our City from its organization, and who was, until a short time since, our head officer; and the monuments of whose benevolence and philanthropy we witness on every hand. To him in a large measure, are we indebted for those improvements which contribute so much to the beauty and prosperity of our town, while the Evergreen Cemetery, the Public School building, the Morris Female Institute, and the beautiful Church of that denomination of which he was a member, are practical evidences of his charity. While we bow with resignation to the dispensations of an all-wise Providence, we mourn the loss of one, who, to the city in which he lived, was a wise counsellor; to the church of which he was a member, an ornament, and to the society in which he moved, a pattern of a Christian gentleman. Whether serving the people in the halls of Congress, in the State Legislature, or in the chief-magistracy of this city, he was ever faithful to the trusts committed to him, and has left behind the record of a well spent, useful life; let us emulate his virtues, and profit by his example.

*Resolved*, That in the death of J. Boyd Headley of this town, the General Government loses an incorruptible and valuable official, who, by his faithful discharge of public duties, proved himself worthy of the trust and confidence reposed in him, and by his winning manners, gentlemanly deportment and christian virtues, endeared him-

self to a large circle of relatives, friends and acquaintances; his death, just in the flower of manhood, and in the midst of his career of usefulness, reminds us of the frail tenure by which we hold our lives, and that the fell destroyer regards neither age, sex or condition.

*Resolved*, That the Common Council attend in a body the funeral of Messrs. Cobb and Headley, and that the citizens be requested to close their places of business during the funeral services.

*Resolved*, That the bells of the churches on the Public Square be tolled half an hour previous to the arrival of the train, by which the remains of the deceased will be conveyed to the town.

*Resolved*, That these Resolutions be entered on the minutes of the Common Council, and a copy, certified by the Mayor and Clerk, under the City Seal, be presented to the families of the deceased.

After their reading they were unanimously adopted.

Recorder Ayers moved that the Council Chamber be draped in mourning for thirty days. Councilmen Dalrymple and Sayre were appointed a committee to make necessary arrangements.

Alderman Speer and Councilman Canfield were appointed to notify residents of neighboring towns and cities of the time and place of funeral.

Recorder Ayers moved that the Council proceed to the depot this afternoon in a body to escort the remains of Messrs. Cobb and Headley to the receiving vault. Carried.

Alderman Speer and Recorder Ayers appointed a Committee to notify citizens in respect to action of Council, as regards the suspension of business during funeral services.

Upon motion of Recorder Ayers, Council adjourned to meet at Council Chamber this afternoon at tolling of bells.

SAMUEL S. HALSEY, Mayor.

J. FARRAND TUTTLE, Acting Clerk.

The Common Council of Dover also held a similar Special Meeting. At a meeting of the Dover Common Council held at their room August 10th, the following resolutions were adopted:

WHEREAS, It has pleased Almighty God in his wise providence to take from us our fellow citizen, Hon. George T. Cobb, a man who, by his noble deeds of benevolence, by the importance of his services to the County and State, and by his uprightness and purity of conduct, has won the confidence, gratitude and love of the people of Morris County;

AND WHEREAS, The members of this Corporation consider it their solemn duty publicly to express that sincere and universal feeling of sorrow which has filled the hearts of themselves and their constituents;

Therefore it is resolved by the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen and Common Councilmen of Dover,

1st. That in the loss of George T. Cobb, we, as a County, have lost one whose place can hardly be supplied, and one whose delight it was to guard the interests and promote the prosperity of his State. That his deeds of benevolence and charity pro-

claim him a christian, patriot and citizen, and leave to us an example of the benefits a good man can scatter around him, and although we bow with submission to the dispensation of Him who doeth all things well, yet we deeply regret that he was thus suddenly cut off in the midst of all his usefulness.

2d. That we do sincerely sympathize with the bereaved family and friends in their bereavement, and assure them that their loss and sorrow is keenly felt by every member of this community, and that the name of George T. Cobb will ever be cherished in grateful remembrance by us all.

3d. That the Mayor, Reeorder, Aldermen and Common Councilmen of Dover will attend the funeral in a body, and that the citizens of the town be requested to close all places of business during the hours of the funeral service.

4th. That the Clerk be directed to transmit a copy of the above resolutions to the family of the deceased, and have the same published in each of the papers published in Morris County.

Attest,

GEO. RICHARDS, Mayor,

WM. H. LAMBERT, Town Clerk.

And at the Second Quarterly Conference for the Methodist Episcopal Church in this Town, held Aug. 10th, 1870, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted :

WHEREAS, In the mysterious providence of Almighty God there has befallen a calamity which has filled us and the community with profound grief, whereby have been removed from the world two of our most esteemed citizens, the Hon. George T. Cobb and J. Boyd Headley, Esq., the former of whom was a member of the Methodist Episcopal, and the latter of the First Presbyterian Church of this city.

*Resolved*, That in the death of our beloved brother, George T. Cobb, the country has lost a wise and good man, the Church of Christ a noble representative Christian in faith and life, the community a highly esteemed citizen and a benefactor.

*Resolved*, That we rejoice in the confidence that our brother was fully ready to meet the sudden call of the Master, and are sure that while this Church and its Sabbath School have lost such a friend and laborer, his redeemed spirit has taken its place in the church triumphant.

*Resolved*, That by this unexpected death of a member of this body, a safe and wise leader in Israel, we, as a Quarterly Conference, are admonished that death is no respecter of persons—that no position of work or usefulness even for God's church, can secure exemption from it as sudden as it may please our Heavenly Father. That it becomes us, also, to be ready for our departure whenever it may come.

*Resolved*, That we have a noble example of the consecration of talent, time and means for the cause of Christ in our departed brother worthy of our imitation.

*Resolved*, That the Quarterly Conference tender its sympathy and prayers to the families of our deceased brothers, George T. Cobb and J. Boyd Headley.

*Resolved*, That copies of these Resolutions be sent to the bereaved families, to the *Christian Advocate*, *The Methodist* and the papers of this city.

M. E. ELLISON, Presiding Elder.

JAS. M. BONSALL, Secretary.

Morristown, Aug. 10th, 1870.



## ACTION OF THE MISSIONARY BOARD.

At a meeting of the Board of Managers of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, held at the Mission Rooms in New York, Aug. 16th, the following minutes were ordered to be placed on the journal :

1. It having pleased our heavenly Father to suddenly call to his eternal home our brother and fellow-laborer, the Hon. George T. Cobb, we do hereby record our judgment of the high character and valuable services of our dear departed brother. He was an exemplary member of our Church, a princely supporter of her institutions, one of the brightest ornaments of this Board, distinguished both in the State and in the Church for a rare combination of high qualities which made him a symmetrical man. He was an honored citizen of the republic, a patriotic statesman, a faithful member of our Church, a diligent Sunday-school worker, a princely supporter of our institutions, the earliest supporter of our Scandinavian missions, and a modest but exemplary Christian. His death is a serious loss both to the country and to our Church. But we submissively accept the mysterious providence which took him from us in the noontime of his power and usefulness, knowing that the Divine wisdom cannot err, nor the Divine goodness fail to make our present loss the seed of our future good. With this faith we tender our warmest sympathies to the widow and her children, commending them to Him who has pledged himself to become the husband of the widow and the father of the fatherless.

2. We also tender our condolence to A. V. Stout, Esq., a distinguished member of our body, who is now in the depths of a great affliction, it having pleased our Father in heaven to take from our brother his son, Theodore B. Stout, a noble young man of fine qualities and great promise. We commend our fellow-laborer to the unfailing sympathies of his and our great High-Priest, praying that he may find the sweet cordial of divine consolation and strength abundantly mixed with the bitter draughts contained in the cup of affliction so frequently held to his lips by the unerring Father of Spirits.

WM. B. SKIDMORE,  
DANIEL WISE,  
C. C. NORTH,  
E. S. JAMES,  
Committee.

The Trustees of Drew Theological Seminary in New York and vicinity, being called together in New York city to consider what action was proper in the case of their late associate, Hon. George T. Cobb, who was recently killed on the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad in Virginia, passed the following resolutions :

*Resolved*, 1. That in the death of Brother Cobb, the Church of our Lord Jesus Christ, and especially the Methodist Episcopal branch of that Church has lost a chief and valuable laborer in the great work devolving upon those who bear the Christian name.

2. That our late fellow trustee was a most earnest and influential member of this Board, giving diligent attention to the duties of the position, and discharging those duties with his accustomed ability.

3. That when such a Christian citizen is removed, we regard the loss to the country as equal to the loss of the church, and we deeply sympathize with the bereaved church and community, and especially with his afflicted family in this mournful event.

4. That the manner of his death greatly intensified the sadness, and that we hereby tender to the family our most sincere condolence.

H. B. LANE, Secretary *pro tem*.

The following circular, sent to the Sabbath Schools of Morris Co., speaks for itself:

STANLEY, August 10th, 1870.

DEAR BROTHER:—A great blow has fallen upon the Sabbath School cause in Morris County, and in our State. Our honored head, the President of our Sabbath School Association, while actively engaged with us on the Committee of Arrangements for the Denville Celebration, has suddenly been called away from us to his reward above.

While we try to imitate his ardor in this good cause, and especially to emulate his faith in our prayers, trusting to our Father in Heaven to raise up another leader equally earnest and devoted, let us also tenderly cherish his memory and exalt his many good deeds.

To this end let us all gather with the thousands of his friends to pay honor to his remains. The funeral of the late Hon. Geo. T. Cobb, will take place at Morristown on Friday next, the 12th instant, at 2 o'clock P. M., in the M. E. Church.

Will not you and your Teachers be present?

#### COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS.

GEO. SHEPARD PAGE, Stanley, *Chairman*,

Rev. B. C. MEGIE, Dover,

Rev. ALBERT ERDMAN, Morristown,

Rev. C. S. COIT, “

Hon. JOHN HILL, Boonton,

Rev. C. CLARK, Mount Hope,

WM. W. MARSH, Schooley's Mountain.

### THE FUNERAL.

The committee with the bodies arrived at the Market street Depot at Newark, at 4 P. M., on Wednesday the 10th, and crossed the city to the Morris and Essex Railroad, where, through the kindness of Mr. A. Reasoner, assistant Superintendent of that road, a special car was in waiting. Into this the coffins were placed, and it was then attached to the express train, reaching Morristown a little before six P. M.

On arriving at the city an immense crowd of the citizens—summoned by the tolling of the church bells—was found assembled, together with the Mayor and Common Council, the Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and many societies in a body. It was thought best to at once remove the dead to the receiving vault of the cemetery, where the exchange into other coffins could be better effected, and thither the procession took its way, consisting of a large number of carriages, and an immense crowd of the citizens. The flags

throughout the city, on the Railroad Depot and on the liberty pole, were at half-mast.

On the succeeding day the bodies were transferred to magnificent rosewood caskets, in the presence of a few intimate friends and the principal physicians of the city. An examination of the way in which they met their death was made by the latter gentlemen, which resulted in discovering a deep wound in the back of the head of Mr. Cobb, caused by his being precipitated backwards, while the left eye and cheek of Mr. Headley bore the marks of a blow, necessarily fatal; thereon it is almost certain that their deaths were instantaneous and without pain. Friday the 12th of August, will be a day long remembered throughout Morris County and a greater part of New Jersey.

Since the death of Chief Justice Whelpley in 1864, no funeral has ever been held in Morristown which drew together anything like such a number of persons as assembled to do honor to the memory of the dead. At an early hour of the day, the citizens of the neighboring villages began to flock into Morristown, and long before the hour appointed for the funeral the green in front of the church was thronged. Governor Randolph had addressed letters to the members of the State Legislature and Assembly, requesting their attendance, and the morning trains brought a large number of those gentlemen. The funeral services had been fixed to take place conjointly from the Methodist Church at 2 P. M., and at noon all stores and places of business were closed, and many stores and private buildings were draped in mourning. The front exterior of the Methodist Church was also hung with crape. At 1½ o'clock the doors of the church were opened to the throng, and all the available room was at once taken up, hundreds being refused admission. The interior was found to be deeply draped in mourning, while a magnificent cross five feet in height and made of white exotics, hung over the pulpit. On the face of the pulpit was a smaller cross of tube roses, and a large boquet of white lillies was upon the altar table. The casket containing the body of Mr. Headley was taken in the morning of the day, to his late residence, where at noon funeral services were conducted by the Rev. John Abbott French, Pastor of the 1st Presbyterian Church of Morristown, and of which body Mr. Headley was a member, and the Rev. Dr. Irving of Orange, a late Pastor of the same church. The services consisted of singing, and a few remarks from the clergymen named, after which the casket was again placed in the hearse and removed to the church.

It was placed in the vestibule of the church, a similar spot being set apart for that of Mr. Cobb, which however was not taken to his late residence, but was removed directly to the church. Services were held at his house by Rev. Dr. Crane, Presiding Elder Ellison, and Revs. Burr and Butz. The caskets containing the dead were placed in magnificent cases covered with black cloth, and edged with silver mountings. On either side massive silver han-

dles burnished with gilt extended the whole length of the case, while smaller similar handles were on each end. A massive silver plate was on each case, that on Mr. Cobb's bearing the inscription:

GEORGE T. COBB,  
DIED AUGUST 6TH, 1870,  
Born Oct. 13th, 1813.

And that on Mr. Headley's,

JOHN BOYD HEADLEY,  
DIED AUGUST 6TH, 1870,  
Born Feb. 22d, 1834.

Upon the cases were many magnificent boquets of flowers, and a crown and cross, with small crosses and wreaths. The church had by two o'clock, when the services commenced, become entirely filled, not even standing room being obtainable. The body of the church was reserved for the relatives and friends of the deceased, the visiting clergy, members of the Senate and State Legislature, Professors and Students of the Drew Theological Seminary, the Mayor and Common Council, and prominent visitors. Upon the stand were Bishop Janes, Rev. John Abbott French, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Morristown, of which body Mr. Headley was a member, Rev. Mr. Burr, Pastor of the Church, Revs. Drs. Crane, Bartine and Porter, Presiding Elder Ellison, Rev. Mr. Lippincott and Rev. Albert Erdman, Pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church of Morristown.

A procession formed by the officiating clergy, the pall bearers, relatives and intimate friends, then entered, the Rev. Mr. Burr reading the solemn opening sentences. The choir, under the direction of Mr. L. Hannis, the chorister of the church, then sang the hymn, "O Thou who driest the mourners tears," followed by the reading of the Ninetieth Psalm by the Rev. Albert Erdman. A beautiful and earnest prayer was then offered by the Rev. Dr. Porter, after which Rev. Mr. Ellison gave out the hymn, "Friend after friend depart," which was sung by the choir. Bishop Janes then delivered the following sermon:

Why does this great sadness prevade this entire community? What means this gloom which so absorbs the public mind? Why these slowly moving processions through the streets, the tolling of bells, the church draped in mourning and this solemn service? As we passed through the portico we beheld the mute but expressive symbols of sorrow, which recalled to our minds that one week ago to-day two of our notable and honored fellow-townsmen left their homes, as they intended to be absent only a few weeks, and then to return to mingle once more as of old, in our social and religious life. In a little more than 24 hours after bidding adieu to their families, by a railroad calamity both of them were suddenly deprived of life. After an unusual delay of several hours the telegraph brought the intelligence of the melancholy event, which spread over this community clouds of sadness, and filled the hearts of many people with sorrow. It is not unreasonable that such an event should cause us to min-



gle our sympathies as well as our prayers. I question whether there is a single person in this community who is not painfully conscious that there is less moral force to promote virtue and antagonize vice than there was a week ago—less patriotism in this community than a week ago. The deceased loved their country, appreciated its institutions, and were ready to defend its liberties and spend their lives in its support. Who does not feel deeply the loss of such men, who were both willing to render and capable of rendering such valuable service? It is generally believed that the departed were Christians, and who does not feel that there is less of vital religion among us than a week ago? In the loss of these patriots and Christians, these workers and practical moralists, the community is indeed bereaved; and it is fitting to mourn.

These general remarks I intend to apply to both our departed friends, both of whom I knew and loved; and I am prepared to say they are entitled to these characteristics to which I have referred.

George T. Cobb was a native of this town. He spent his boyhood and early youth here and in this vicinity, and went from here to New York and commenced his career in a humble capacity, and steadily rose to a position of honor and wealth, and secured the respect of all who knew him. He returned to Morristown and spent the remainder of his days in your society, I had almost said in your service. He was an intellectual man in feeling and study, and though not favored in early life with much education, became afterwards a practically educated man—and by the by, this is no mean education, but is one by which many men have cut out for themselves a pathway in life both glorious and noble.

This course of life gave him positive convictions and a strong will. His decision of character was one of the secrets of his success in life. Men of these characteristics are not always favorites; but men without them are of very little service to themselves or others in the field of existence, and seldom accomplish much. He was gifted with great industry and energy, and pursued all enterprises in which he embarked with great vigor, overcoming all obstacles, until he accomplished his purposes. Yet he had a kind and generous heart, was liberal to the poor and suffering, and looked after all the interests of society. He was deeply interested in all matters of education, exhibiting the most earnest sympathy with children, especially in the Sunday School and the church. In early manhood he gave his heart to God, and ever maintained a decided religious character, without vacillation or hesitancy. His manhood was dignified by the practice of upright Christian principles.

When a young man in New York, he appointed and held weekly meetings to encourage the new believers, and many a time after a long, laborious day's work, has he gone past his home, and supperless gone to his place of meeting. During his most active business life he never evaded his duties as a class leader.

Mr. Cobb's high religious character was remarkably manifested in regard to this house of worship. He consulted with me upon the question whether he should first build the house of God, or a residence for himself, as he could not very well erect both simultaneously. Finally, he decided to build the church first. St. Paul's Church, London, has inscribed upon it a line giving the name of Sir Christopher Wren as its architect, with the words, "Would you see his monument, look around you." So we may say of Mr. Cobb, who was mainly instrumental in the erection of this church. This is his great monument. Long may it be remembered by those who worship in it.

Time will not allow me to amplify in this strain of remark. I feel I may say with propriety, that he has been removed by God's Providence. Was there, you may ask, no accident? Did he not die by carelessness? Was there no culpable negligence to

be attributed to the railroad authorities? I believe that the managers of that road were culpable, and that their conduct should be legally investigated, with a view to their receiving a punishment, which, if they do not receive here on earth, they will hereafter.

But was it not still the work of Providence? Let us look into this thing. The deceased certainly were in the pursuit of a legitimate purpose, to get strength to labor still further in the Lord's vineyard; they were travelling by a public road, and placed themselves in no unnecessary peril. So far as we know, there was no vindictiveness on the part of the managers. Was it not providential that they were on that particular train, while others who are in this house, and who intended going on that train, were not permitted to make the journey? Why were they on that train? Are not the steps of all good men ordered of God? Is there not a supervision? Was this a mere casualty? No; God's eye is on his servants; they cannot be harmed without his knowledge. Yet this fact does not allay our sorrow. God did it, and we recognize his ways.

Did not God by this sad providence designed to impress the survivors with the brevity of life, and the necessity of preparation to meet the summons? Does he not warn us to be ready and to keep our lamps trimmed and burning. If this event does not awaken our anxiety to our christian welfare, I know of nothing more potent to enlist our attention in the question of our eternal interests. Does not God mean to say to us, "whatever you do, do it with your might."

The event has a melancholy aspect which may be relieved by a careful examination. We feel that if our friends had been with us on their death beds, where we could hear their last prayers and last words, we would be better satisfied. Possibly! but I believe that in the few seconds that intervened between consciousness of danger and death, there was great mental activity. None who have not been in some great danger can appreciate this. While that car was descending those 90 odd feet, I have no doubt they commended their families to God, and offered up a prayer for those near and dear ones and for themselves; and saw as did Stephen, heaven open and Jesus standing ready to help them. God grant if we die as suddenly we may die in spirit as did they.

The Rev. John Abbott French then spoke as is given below :

I will not add anything to that which has been so well said. We have little need of words, for we are in the midst of an eloquence of praise which makes ours silent. These two beloved brethren have departed, but "Their works do follow them," in the memories of this world, as well as in the reward of the other. This beautiful church shall stand for generations as a monument to the munificence of the one, and the beautiful chapel on the other side of the green shall testify to the Christian liberality of the other. The words that we might speak would die away into silence, and be forgotten; but the memory of faithful and loving lives last forever. We leave these two dear brethren then to the remembrance of faithful friends and the reward of a loving Saviour.

We turn our attention to another thought which at this hour weighs heavily on heart and mind to us all. Why were these so noble and useful men taken away so suddenly? Was it by chance or a purposeless providence that this great cloud of sorrow was rolled in on two heart-broken families, and a whole saddened community? Every heart feels that God is this day teaching a lesson of such grave and infinite solemnity as has not been known here for a generation; and, ministering in His name I would try to put God's lesson into words.

Two faithful workers whose life of usefulness is suddenly ended! My Christian brethren it teaches each one of us to "work while the day lasts, for the night cometh wherein no man can work."

God has given us each one a work to do. When a man is converted he is not at once taken to heaven, but he is left here on earth to be a part of that great church which is filling up that which is behind, of the sufferings and labor of Christ. The Saviour no longer labors directly among men; but he speaks by his Spirit through the medium of his people. He gives the bible to be distributed by their hands, explained by their teachings, made effectual by their prayers. He never comes to men with direct comfort for them, sorrow or sympathy for their temptations; but he moves his people to "bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law and the life of Christ."

Each one of you has his own individual share of that work; and, moreover, it is a certain definite part which extends through a definite number of years and is then cut short. Why, we ask, is life so limited? Why are men taken away before they have made their own characters perfect, and while so much work is left to be done? Why are not Christians permitted to live and labor for centuries? No man can answer; the secret of such short definite lives is hidden in the inscrutable wisdom of Almighty God. Only this we know, that before each one of us is a number of definite days and years, how few or how many we cannot tell, (the end may be next year or it may be to-night,) and after that is done there is no more of this blessed work forever. There will be none to be comforted in heaven, for there will be no sorrow there; and there will be none to be converted, for there will be no sinners there. Our part of Christ's great redemptive work must be finished in these few years, or not at all. And this too is the only work which gains the crown. All who believe in Christ are saved, but so differently. Some, (and we speak it with emphasis above the dead) go up "bearing their sheaves with them," and some go to the great Harvest Home with empty hands. Some having saved many souls shall shine like the stars, and some shall be forever dim with the indolence of a mispent and selfish life.

Last Saturday night these two were riding quietly in the cars to their destination, and as the Conductor came by they spoke smilingly, saying that they were weary and needed rest. They found their rest that Saturday night, sooner than they expected, and kept that Sabbath day with the Son of Man in the joy of those whose work is done and well done. Suppose you had been there, what would have been the record of your finished work that Saturday night? My brother, Christ has given you a labor to perform, and by faithfulness in that you will win your crown of eternal glory. Yet the time is limited; only so many days or years, how many we cannot tell, and the account is closed forever. A short, definite time, and the glory of eternity rests upon it. God has spoken to you in many ways, and yet many of you remain indifferent. Death has this week struggled up from that Virginia ravine, and, bringing two silent bodies, lays them down before you with an awful eloquence. "Look, the night has come; they can work no more. Will you be faithful? unto you the night may come to-morrow."

Two earnest laborers, whose life was suddenly finished. The solemn fact appeals to every Christian, that he too be faithful; but it carries with it also a yet more awful lesson, backed by the dread sanction of eternity. Two souls who went out into the other world without a moment's warning. That fact speaks to every unconverted man. "Be ye also ready, for in an hour when ye think not the Son of Man shall come." There are before me hundreds of men and women, sensible and practical, who yet have no hope of heaven. I will do you the justice to think, dear friends, that you are not walking deliberately into the presence of God unprepared; you would not walk open-

eyed to destruction. You silence your conscience with this subterfuge, "By and by when I am on my death-bed I will be a Christian. I could not think of going into eternity without making my peace with my Maker." With this thought in your heart you have lived peacefully for years, and purpose to live peacefully for years to come. Suppose last Saturday night you had been with those two. For you, as for them, there would have been a sudden jar of the car on the track, a roll, a plunging fall, a moment of confused time, and what then? At the bottom of that terrible abyss you would have met your judge, "Come in an hour when you thought not."

You tell me that not one man in a thousand meets a death like that, and you are willing to take the chances. Let us in this solemn moment look calmly at the chances of a death-bed repentance, and see if you are willing to take the risk. "Nine men out of ten die calmly in their beds," you say; which is very true; but they do not die with a calm opportunity for thought. Death always comes unexpectedly. There is sickness; severe, perhaps, but the man has been sick before; he expects to recover. By and by there is great weakness, but the friends will not speak of it lest it should impair the hope of recovery. At last they tell you there is no hope, and in one case out of two the mind is so dulled, the heart is so deadened by the chill of coming death, that you cannot think or feel; and through the mists you sink into an unexpected eternity.

A man walks through an East Indian jungle by twilight, and there side by side with him creeps the tiger waiting his time. Sometimes death leaps out suddenly; a roar, a crash, and all is done. More often the man sits down to rest and death steals up, half seen and yet not feared, behind each bush and rock, until from close at hand the leap is made, and the man is gone, unprepared.

Yet will you insist on that last chance? "Half of those who die," you say, "are clear minded and able to feel what is coming, I will take that risk." Yes, but how many of those who are able to think, ever found salvation in a true repentance? An old clergyman who had labored at the bedside of the dying for many years, said that of more than a hundred supposed death bed conversions, he had known only *four* who showed in after life that their hope had been well founded. Think of it, dear friends—only one chance out of two that you will be able to think clearly at all, and then but four in a hundred that your assurance will be real. I call you to an account before the bar of your own common sense and experience, are you willing to take that risk? God will never speak to you in all your lives with a more impressive warning than this. Will you put the seal to this lesson here above the dead by turning now to Christ? If you will go back into your carelessness again, remember that God has spoken with his uttermost entreaty, and all in vain.

Dear friends, are you willing to make your sorrow practical? You have borne it in your hearts this week; you will bear it for weeks to come. Are you willing to act upon it? Will you, Christian brethren, here, by the silent forms of these two earnest men, vow to take upon yourselves their faithfulness from this moment? If so, a hundred noble men shall take the place of two; and they shall work in death as they never worked in life. You would gladly unite to build a monument above their graves; will you on this grand foundation of the work they have begun, raise this noble superstructure which shall be fairer than monumental marble? You who grieve for the departed, will you, warned by this awful teaching, give yourselves to Christ now? On Saturday night the redeemed stood with open arms of welcome, saying, "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord, for they have ceased from their labors." To-day they sing a new song, rejoicing over one sinner that repenteth. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord, for they have ceased from their labors and their works do follow them." The prophets even dead shall work out the glory of God.



Rev. Dr. Crane delivered the following address :

Little needs to be added to what has been said, yet I feel that it would be a privilege to utter a thought or two more,—to lay, as it were, another bud or two beside the crowns and the crosses of flowers which rest above the silent forms in the vestibule yonder. The two noble men whose sudden departure we lament, are worthy of the honors which we pay them.

John Boyd Hoadley was a good man, and a lover of all good causes, in the advocacy of which his voice was often heard. He was a public spirited citizen, a faithful friend, a good son, a good husband, a good father. The whole community will greatly miss him, his genial face, his cheerful voice, his generous deeds.

In delineating the character of our honored friend George T. Cobb, it seems to me that the most prominent, controlling element to be noted was his integrity, his fidelity to every trust reposed in him. All who knew him felt that every interest placed in his hands was safe, that it would neither be betrayed nor neglected.

This trait of character, and the sensitiveness which naturally belongs to it, marked him in his early boyhood. When almost a child he obtained a situation as clerk in a little village store a few miles from this town, and noticing that his employer did not think it worth while to deal in a particular article, some little trifle, fishhooks, slate pencils, or something of the kind, he obtained permission to trade in the article for his own benefit, and prospered in his little business. Seeing him counting his boyish gains one day, his employer said to him, more playfully than otherwise, "George, it seems to me that you have a great deal of money, I hope you get it honestly." George made no reply, but went out of the room. A neighbor who had heard the remark, said, "Do you know that you have hurt that boy badly? You had better find him and set things right." George was found hidden away in a corner, weeping bitterly, filled with grief and hot indignation. Said he, "You know I am poor; my character is all that I have, and you are taking it away."

As was the boy, so was the man. The same trait of character was strikingly evinced at the very beginning of Mr. Cobb's public life. When the plots of the enemies of the Union culminated in rebellion and fratricidal war, there were those who sought to wield party names and use party ties, to paralyze the government in its efforts to resist the attacks aimed at its life. And party ties are strong. When a man who has been elevated by their influence, or by their aid, to official station, feels that he cannot in conscience submit to the dictation of the political leaders who assume to control his action; when he determines to cling resolutely to the right in defiance of threats and clamor, then there is an outcry, "You are not only injuring yourself, but you are damaging our prospects; you are ruining us." And mercenary hands try to seize upon him and thrust him into the place which crafty, self-seeking men have chosen for him, and hold him there.

Through this ordeal Mr. Cobb passed while a member of Congress, during the troublous times which ushered in the Rebellion. He saw traitorous hands uplifted against our institutions. He saw the peril. He saw the crooked path in which weak or traitorous men would fain lead their associates by the jugglery of party names, and the force of party discipline. And the party ties with which they tried to bind him, he burst, as did Samson, the seven green withes of the Philistines. Nobly he battled for his country and the right. President Lincoln recognized him at once as a true man, wise in counsel, strong in action, one on whom he could rely in dark hours. Mr. Cobb's friends may well look back with pride to this part of his history, for at no other time did his great qualities find a more fitting field, or shine with brighter luster.

It is not undue praise to say that Mr. Cobb had in him the elements of a genuine statesman. He possessed a comprehensive mind, a prompt, accurate judgment, steadiness and strength of purpose, courage to deal with great questions, a mental vision which lost sight of nothing which might conduce to success, and an industry which never ceased to work while anything remained to be done. These qualities, united with inflexible integrity, made him a power wherever he was placed, and won public confidence for everything in which he had a share.

This fidelity to every trust was also exemplified in a marked degree while he was a member of the State Senate. He studied every legislative measure, as if he felt personally responsible for all that was done. He never avoided the responsibility of voting. He never voted at random. Nor did even the remorseless tongue of partisan detraction dare to insinuate that selfish considerations ever controlled his action.

Another marked trait in Mr. Cobb's character was his generous benevolence. How he delighted to do good with his abundant means. Every street of this, his native place, bears witness. Your Female Seminary owes its existence largely to his instrumentality. Your beautiful and commodious public school building stands on grounds which he donated for the purpose, and by large additional donations in money, he aided in the erection of the edifice. This beautiful church in which we are gathered on this sad occasion, was erected mainly through his liberality. The Cemetery where his remains are so soon to be laid, is his gift to his native town.

Nor did his generous nature exhaust itself in these broad streams of beneficence. It traversed the whole community in a thousand rivulets of well doing. No man, or woman, or child, Protestant or Catholic, Jew or Gentile, ever went to him with a worthy claim for aid, in trouble, and failed of a hearing, or was turned empty away. How often in the winter have I seen loads of wood travelling these streets, sent by him to warm the homes of the poor. How often have I met at his door those who could only have gone thither for counsel or for help.

I love to trace these little rills of goodness. When Mr. Cobb was a little orphan boy, a colored woman showed kindness to the lonely child, cheering his heart with pleasant words, and many a little act of good will. He never forgot his humble friend. Her kindness was repaid, not sixty nor a hundred, but a thousand fold. When she was old and infirm, and he had risen to wealth and honor, he tenderly cared for her, surrounded her with comforts, and cheered her old age by his kindness. I well remember the Sabbath afternoon when he excused himself for leaving in the middle of the session the Sabbath School of which he was then and till the end, the Superintendent, saying that he was "going to attend the funeral of an old friend." It was the humble friend of his childhood.

And this reminds me of the Sabbath School, and the large place which Mr. Cobb filled in it. How he loved the children. How ardently they returned his love. Who that has ever shared in our Christmas festival, or witnessed it, will ever forget the scene. How his face fairly shone with delight, especially as he distributed his presents to the little ones, accompanying each gift with pleasant, merry words. I have thought since I entered this house of God, that Mr. Cobb was disappointed in one cherished expectation. To his mind and heart this church could hardly seem fully dedicated to all its high and holy uses, until the Sabbath School had held its annual festival within its walls, and he had here beheld the happy faces of the children all about him, and listened to their songs.

But time would fail to rehearse the thronging memories of the hour. Our honored friend is gone. He was taken from us in a moment, and here we shall see his face no

more, nor hear his voice as we oft have heard it, in prayer and praise. The church, the nation, has few such men to lose. It may not be out of place to say that Mr. Cobb seemed to have almost a premonition of what awaited him. On his way from the White Sulphur Springs at the close of his first visit there in June last, he looked down with a shudder into the chasm where he was soon to meet death, and said to his daughter, perhaps a little playfully, and yet with a vein of seriousness in his words, "I am glad that we passed this before in the night; if I had seen it, I would have been afraid to go back over it." And after he reached home, he spoke of that fearful ravine.

I can imagine the train approaching the spot, amid the gathering shadows of that fatal Saturday evening, the sixth of August. The iron wheels roar as they pass over the lofty trestle work. A second locomotive comes in the rear of the train to help up the ascending grade of the other side. The changing noise shows that the rocky steep is reached, and the laboring engines apply their strength. Suddenly a fearful jar is felt. The startled passengers leap to their feet. The car poises for a moment on the brink, and then plunges down into the dark abyss.

And what were the emotions of those within? Doubtless they knew just where they were falling, and felt that to them it was death. One swift prayer to God, one swift thought speeding backward to their homes, their loved ones here; another swift thought speeding forward to the other life, and the loved ones waiting for them there, and then the awful crash.

And then, in all probability, without one moment's consciousness of pain, eternal life. O wondrous change! O infinite transition! this world, with its trials, its care, its sorrows, what we call its good and what we call its evil, forever past, and as we trust, Heaven gained by the blood of the Redeemer.

And yet it seems as if we could not let these our loved and honored friends go. We will not murmur. God is good; but we feel that our loss is very great. We are almost ready to borrow the thought of David when Saul and Jonathan were slain in battle, and say, "Ye mountains of Virginia, let there be no dew, neither let there be rain upon you, nor fields of offerings; for the beauty of our Israel is slain upon thy high places, and the mighty are fallen."

After which the choir sang with fine effect the set piece, "They have gone."

The order of procession was then given out from the stand, and the mournful cortege passed from the church, headed by the clergy present. The carriers who bore the coffin of Mr. Cobb were Messrs. Burk and Lawson, his two farmers, together with four of his farm hands. The pall bearers were Governor Randolph, Senator Little, Judge Ryerson, Judge Dalrymple, William C. Baker, W. B. Skidmore, S. U. F. Odell and I. Searing. Following came the near relatives and friends of Mr. Cobb, and then the coffin of Mr. Headley, carried by Mr. Mesler his farmer, and five of his farm hands. The pall bearers of Mr. Headley were H. M. Olmstead, H. C. Pitney, E. A. Walton, T. Anderson, J. W. Ballantine, T. Little. The near relatives and friends of Mr. Headley followed behind the coffin, and the order of procession was then as follows: The Mayor and Common Council of Morristown, the Mayor and Common Council of Dover, the Supreme Court, Members of the Senate and State Legislature, Official Board of the Metho-

dist Episcopal Church of Morristown, the Professors and Students of the Drew Theological Seminary, Post No. 18, Grand Army of the Republic, the Fire Department of the city of Morristown, and the citizens and visitors. The immense crowd, estimated at nearly two thousand persons, which had gathered on the green while the services were being held in the over-crowded church, and in which were at least fifteen hundred, were hushed into silence as the coffins came forth and were placed in the hearses. The bells of the city churches tolled mournfully, and every head was uncovered in token of respect for the dead, and in the order mentioned the procession took its way to the cemetery. The day throughout had been of the finest, but now as if in keeping with the old adage, which says, "Happy are the dead whom the rain rains on," a sudden shower fell, but quickly passed over and the sun shone brightly as ever. Everywhere along the line of route the deepest marks of respect were paid to the dead, the stores being all closed and many houses draped in mourning.

The procession was the largest ever known in Morristown, and the immense concourse of people accompanied the bodies to the cemetery. At the grave of Mr. Headley the services were said by Rev. J. Abbott French, and his remains were laid in a beautiful lot which he had bought during his lifetime. The coffin of Mr. Cobb was placed temporarily in the receiving vault, the services being said by Rev. Mr. Burr, and the benediction given by Bishop Janes.

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## MEMORIAL SERVICES.

On Sunday the 14th August, being the first Sunday succeeding Mr. Cobb's funeral, several memorial services were held in churches throughout the county, and sermons preached on his life and character. Notable among these was one held by the Sabbath School of the Methodist Church of Morristown. The entire school, to the number of between four and five hundred, assembled in their school room in the afternoon, and walked in procession into the church, each wearing a badge of mourning. Addresses were made to the children by Revs. Burr and Butz, and also by Isaac Bird, Esq., and Mr. I. Searing, the latter gentleman having accepted Mr. Cobb's position as Superintendent of the Sabbath School. The services were very beautiful and touching, the eyes of many in the vast congregation becoming filled with tears.

At the Methodist Church of Washington, also, a memorial service was preached by the Rev. R. B. Yard, pastor of the church, who, when stationed at Morristown, had both of the deceased gentlemen as members of his congregation. Mr. Yard preached a most beautiful and eloquent sermon in



memory of the dead, and recounted many instances of Mr. Cobb's liberality and nobleness of heart.

On the Sunday after Mr. Cobb's funeral the Rev. Robert N. Merritt, Rector of St. Peter's Church, Morristown, preached a sermon on sudden death, from St. James, iv, 16. "Ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away."

The Reverend gentleman, after alluding to the accident by which two prominent citizens had been suddenly called away from their work in this world to their reward in the next, proceeded to speak of the value of the prayer against *sudden death* in the Liturgy of the Episcopal Church, to notice and refute the objections which some have against its use, and to urge upon every one the duty of uniting heartily in the petition. "From battle and murder, and from *sudden death*, good Lord deliver us." The preacher then dwelt upon the uncertainty of life, the hazard of delay in discharging its duties, and continued his discourse thus:

We must be active, earnest, zealous about our religion. There can be no lukewarmness here. If there is anything which God hates, and which Holy Scripture characterizes in language descriptive of sickening disgust, it is a lukewarm and indifferent Christian. "So then, because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth." (Rev. iii, 16.) And if there is any character who calls forth the admiration of both God and man, it is he who is faithful to his business and faithful to his God, "Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings." "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life. (Rev. ii, 10.) Such an one as this commands our respect and regard, and now that he is taken from our midst by a sudden and unforeseen stroke of the Divine hand, we shall be all the better for reflecting upon the strong points of his character, and striving to imitate them.

Our townsman whom we have just buried was "diligent in his business." The story of his life, how he rose from poverty to affluence by steady perseverance and honest indefatigable industry, is known to most of us. Whatever he undertook prospered in his hand, and the secret of success rested in his diligence. This quality pointed him out as a fit person for the public service, and his fellow citizens not only gave him the highest local office in their gift, but sent him to represent them in the National Congress, and the State Legislature. That he discharged the duties of these several positions with diligence will not be disputed by any, even his opponents. Let the success which attended the exertions of this man, stimulate us all to work in our several stations with honesty and vigor. These qualities are sure of recognition, and the call to come up higher both in social and civil relations will sooner or later be heard by the diligent man.

Our townsman was also public spirited and benevolent. God had blessed him, and he was anxious to be the instrument of blessing others. Keenly feeling in himself the want of early education, he was desirous that others should not be deprived of so great a boon. That the erection of a free-school in this town was not longer delayed, is doubtless owing to his liberality, and his name ought therefore to be associated with it as long as it stands. Other works of a like nature, such as a High School and

a public library would, I have every reason to believe, have engaged his attention had God seen fit to continue his life.

But, my brethren, I have yet to speak of the noblest part of the character of our deceased citizen, and that was his Christian example. He believed in his religion, and recognized the personal responsibilities which it laid upon him. Not content with giving money for its extension, he gave time and most untiring personal labor. I have frequently seen him in heat and cold, in stormy and in fine weather going to his Sunday School. Nothing, I believe, ever kept him from this work, or from the performance of any other which his religion entailed. At the class meeting, the prayer meeting and the Lord's Day services he was always present. There was no active movement for the extension of his faith in which he did not share. How often has it been my wish and my prayer that God would raise up some in this congregation to do likewise—that he would by His Holy Spirit move the hearts of the men in this church to aid in the spiritual work of the parish, to give not their money only, but themselves, and all that they are, and all that they have, to the work of the Lord. Then the prayer against sudden death might not be so imperative, for the last struggle would meet us doing with our might whatsoever our Lord found for us to do, and remembering that there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom in the grave.

Brethren, it would do us all good to contemplate and think more of the works which Christians of other names are doing about us, if perchance we might be stirred up to imitate their generosity. Far be it from me ever to withhold my admiration and my feeble testimony to the good works of others, even though they walk not with us. The sight of men of any creed, earnest in their work, benevolent in their hearts, open handed in their charities, anxious to serve God and do good to their fellow creatures, should make all men rejoice, and feel sorry when they are taken away. And it has always seemed to me, that if next to the commands and promises of God's word, and thankfulness for the privileges we enjoy in His Church, there is anything which could stimulate us to be more zealous in our religion, it is the activity displayed by other Christian bodies in winning souls to Christ, and in building up their several organizations throughout the land. How vain to dwell upon the antiquity of our Church, the validity of her orders, the purity of her doctrine, and the unparalleled excellency of her liturgy, if the self-denial of her children, and their zeal for Christ are eclipsed by Christians who make no boast of these things, and as a body are poorer in this world's goods than we are. The Master has said that by their fruits ye shall know them, and I believe, that wherever we find the morality of the gospel joined with the active benevolence of the Gospel, there we shall find the sinner accepted with God, no matter by what Christian name he may be known among the families of this world.

I urge you, therefore, by the shortness of life, by the examples of those who have served God in their generation, and by the suddenness with which death puts an end to all our plans, to work while the daylight lasts. If God has blessed you with money, be your own executor, and use some of it to rear a monument which will bring blessings on your memory. To what nobler use can a Christian man appropriate his wealth than the building of a church where the pure Gospel is to be forever preached, and the sacraments duly ministered according to Christ's ordinance—the erection of a school for the instruction of the young—or the founding of a home for orphan children, like that which a good man recently settled in our midst, has provided? And I might also ask, what greater pleasure can there be for any of us in this world than to see

institutions like these springing from the seed of our liberality, to watch them as they grow, and bud, and blossom into fruit, the sweetness of which we shall only know in its full richness when we hear the words "Well done good and faithful servant." Deeds, like these, are more imperishable than the sculptured marble, for they make their impress upon coming generations, and keep the memory of him who does them, fresh and green in the hearts of men.

The lesson, from what we have been dwelling upon is easily gathered. Whatever we would do, great works or small, set about them now. "Ye know not what shall be on the morrow." The most trifling event of common life, the opening and shutting of a window, the tripping on a stairway, the starting of a horse, a journey by rail for business, pleasure or health, may imperil your life, perhaps bring you into the presence of the Eternal Judge. How important for you not to neglect the active duties of the Christian life! How important for you to live in a state of constant preparation! Never to omit prayer, self-examination, Holy Communion, and the arrangement of your worldly business. And if, dear brethren, as I fear is the case with most of us, we are not prepared to die, how fervently should we utter the Psalmist's petition, "O spare me a little that I may recover my strength, before I go hence and be no more seen;" and also the prayer in our solemn Litany, "From battle and murder and from *sudden death*, good Lord deliver us."

On Sunday the 21st of August, the Sabbath School of the Methodist Church of Morristown again re-assembled in their school room to do honor to their late and loved Superintendent.

In procession the entire School with their Officers and Teachers walked to Mr. Cobb's grave in the Cemetery, each child and adult bearing a choice bouquet of flowers to cast upon his grave—many carried exquisite wreaths, crosses and crowns of choice exotics, and the grave was literally covered with these beautiful symbols. Rev. Mr. Burr delivered an address to those assembled, which sank deep into the heart of both young and old, and will serve to keep the memory of Mr. Cobb green for many a day.

The grave is beautifully situated in what is known as the new part of the Cemetery, and some trees having been removed, it is in full view of Mr. Cobb's late residence.

As Mr. Cobb was president of the Camp Meeting Association of the Newark Conference, memorial services were held on the Camp Ground, near Denville, N. J., on Friday Afternoon, Aug. 19th, in the presence of a large concourse of people, when addresses were delivered by Rev. Bishop E. S. Janes, Rev. A. Atwood, of Philadelphia, and Rev. H. A. Butz, of the Drew Theological Seminary. Bishop Janes gave a very full and accurate analysis of the character of Mr. Cobb, and spoke of the recent bereavements which the church has suffered, referring by name with appropriate characterization to Bishops Thomson and Kingsley, Drs. McClintock, Nadal and Foss, and the laymen Cornell, Stout and Cobb. He described Mr. Cobb as a man of integrity, industry, modesty, and of a warm devotion to the church of Christ.

The portrait which he drew of him was very complete, and showed the

thorough acquaintance which he had with his departed friend. He especially suggested his character worthy of the study and imitation of young men.

Mr. Atwood said he intended to have presented the model characteristics of Mr. Cobb, but as they had already been referred to by Bishop Janes, he passed them over, and spoke more particularly of his early married life and conversion, showing their bearings on his future successful career.

Mr. Butz referred to the deceased as a friend and Christian, and alluded to the friendship which existed between Mr. Cobb and Mr. Headley in their life-time, as resembling that between David and Jonathan, and said that it was a touching coincidence that the two who were so close together while living, should be also united in their death. He said that Mr. Cobb combined great strength of will with gentleness, courage with modesty, and the closest attention to the details of business with unceasing generosity. He was a great lover of children and of the Sabbath School, as well as a constant friend to ministers of the Gospel, particularly to those of his own church. He regarded him as a devoted Christian, whom the children and the church will embalm in their hearts, and whose works will perpetuate his memory.

The stand was heavily draped in mourning, and had the name "Cobb" in large black letters on a white ground, prominently displayed.

The crowd present was estimated at 7,000 persons.

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## THE ACCIDENT.

Leaving Washington at an early hour in the morning, Messrs. Cobb and Headley travelled throughout the day, and were due at their destination, the White Sulphur Springs, at 10 P. M. the same night. Between seven and eight miles from the Springs is a place known as Jerry's Run, where a deep gorge in the Alleghany range of mountains is crossed by the line of the Chesapeake and Ohio railroad. The permanent track of the road crosses at an elevation of 180 feet, but a temporary track had been constructed, awaiting the finishing of the other, which has a grade of 160 feet to the mile, and is at an elevation of between 80 and 90 feet. To approach this track a trestle work had been built, which is entirely straight, but has an up grade of nearly 300 feet to the mile. On passing the trestle work the road curves sharply to the left on a radius of 500 feet, the main line being to the right and above the track, while the precipice is on the left.

On approaching this spot with its heavy grade, an engine was added to the rear of the train, to enable it to climb to the summit. This practice is generally disapproved of by railroad experts, as it is impossible to avoid a calamity should any accident happen to the forward engine or the cars, the



engine in the rear blindly pushing them into a tangled mass. Whether in the present sad instance a wheel broke on the ill-fated car and so threw it from the track, or the engines not working in unison, the pressure causing the car to jump from the track, does not seem to be generally understood, and probably never will be. The train consisted of five cars, on the last but one of which were Messrs. Cobb and Headley.

The conductor had passed through his train just a few moments before the accident and describes their position as being near the forward end of the car, and sitting on a double seat and face to face; Mr. Cobb riding backwards. They remarked to the conductor that they were tired and were then, in the hopes of being in a few minutes at their destination, engaged in gathering together their little travelling necessities. The hour was about half-past nine, and the night though moonlight, was dark and gloomy in those mountains. The car left the track and the wheels in front either breaking or becoming fast in the track, the engine still pushing behind, forced the rear end of the car against the wall of the mountain. This caused the front of the car to slew around to the brink of the precipice, and then before the unfortunates within could perhaps even spring from their seats, the car with its living freight of over thirty souls was dashed to the bottom of the run.

Had the accident happened thirty feet either before or after where it did, the consequences would necessarily have been much less serious, for a sloping bank was on either side of the run. The car landed on its forward end on the rough country road which was parallel with the rocky bottom of the run, and then breaking in two, fell over upon its side. Fortunately but this one car left the track, and the living from the rest of the train were promptly on hand to assist the wounded and remove the dead. In a few moments some few who had gone down with the car, but miraculously escaped with little or no bruises, came clambering up the bank of the road half crazy with the terrible fall they had undergone, and fearful for the safety of those near and dear to them who were in the other cars of the train. By the light of the train lanterns, a fearful scene was made visible in the fallen car. The seats had become loosened and had fallen the entire length of the car, carrying with them their occupants, and piling them in one confused mass.

At the upper end of the car, twenty wounded persons were at once removed, and then the work of recovering the bodies of the dead began. Captain Claiborne R. Mason, a railroad contractor, with a body of his workmen resided near by, and lent efficient aid in handling the wounded and the dead. They were removed to his house and the work of the surgeon and that of identification proceeded. Fortunately those wounded were injured but slightly, having no bones broken. The dead were laid out and all evidences of their fearful death removed as far as possible.

The bodies were laid in a room of an adjoining house, and in many cases presented a horrible appearance, several being fearfully cut and bruised. Until Sunday morning those of Mr. Cobb and Mr. Headley remained unidentified, being mentioned in the Richmond papers of Monday, as unknown, and the body of Mr. Cobb described as that of "a gentleman with a considerable amount of money, of portly person, and wearing gold shirt buttons, a diamond, and garnets." And the body of Mr. Headley as "a gentleman with side whiskers, of portly person, and who had in his pocket a return ticket to New York.

After Mr. David Watts before mentioned had arrived at the terrible scene of the disaster, he quickly recognized the body of his late friend, Mr. Cobb, and having heard him mention Mr. Headley as his friend and finding that name upon the shirt of the remaining unidentified body, he telegraphed as given before that those two gentlemen were killed. Coffins were despatched by special trains from Richmond, and the bodies of Messrs. Cobb and Headley were placed in the receptacles in which they were brought North.

An attempt to procure ice to keep the bodies was made, but it could not be obtained in sufficient quantities. An examination was at once held into the cause of the accident, but nothing of importance was elicited. It was proved, however, that the train was going at the slow rate of between five and six miles an hour when the accident happened.

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## OBITUARIES.

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### HON. GEO. T. COBB.

Mr. Cobb was born in Morristown on the 13th day of October, 1813, and was in the 57th year of his age at the time of his death. His ancestors were of the Revolutionary stock—his grandfather being a brave and trusted soldier and officer under Washington, and participant in thirteen battles of the war, beginning with Monmouth in New Jersey and ending with Yorktown. He lost his father when he was but three years old, and his mother dying three years subsequently, he was left a penniless orphan at the age of six, the fortune he afterwards acquired being the result of his own industry, ability and integrity. At an early age he became a clerk in the store of Mr. Francis Lindsley at Den-ville, with whom he remained two or three years; afterwards he was a clerk for John Righter at Parsippany, where he attracted the attention of Capt. William Scott, who owned the iron works at Powerville and Boonton, rented those at Stanhope and Dover, and was carrying on the business largely for that day, by whom he was employed and placed in charge of the works at Dover. From there he was transferred by Capt. Scott to his store in New York city. His

industry, integrity and capacity for business soon produced their natural fruits, and at length he was able to engage in business for himself. Engaging heavily in the foreign and domestic iron trade, he visited England, Sweden and Norway to learn all that was needed to be known of the foreign markets, and incidentally learn something of other countries. Wealth flowed in, and some few years since he was able to retire from business and return to Morristown with a splendid fortune.

During the years devoted to trade Mr. Cobb paid comparatively little attention to political matters. His first entrance upon public life was in 1860, when he was brought out as a Democratic candidate for Congress. His election followed, and following close upon that came the rebellion, when he cast party ties to the winds and stood firmly and unfalteringly by President Lincoln in all his efforts for its suppression.

In the Democratic Congressional Convention of 1862 he was tendered a re-nomination, but upon a platform which virtually condemned his course in Congress, which he indignantly refused to accept. Since that time he has been identified with the Republican party, having been twice elected State Senator, three times Mayor of Morristown, and contributed by his wise counsels and untiring efforts to its success in his County and District.

Of ample fortune, used with princely liberality in the cause of Christianity and public and private charity; eminently handsome and noble looking in person; mild and amiable in deportment, but possessing one of the most determined and resolute of wills, when his mind was fairly bent upon an object; a man of rare business tact, energy and prudence; a remarkable judge of men; singularly apt to political combinations, and yet far above political trickery and meanness; a man of ripe culture, and ready speech, strong in argument, fertile in resource, and unconquerable in persistence—as a legislator, a partisan, a public servant, a public benefactor, a citizen and a man—it will be hard to find the equal of Mr. Cobb, in New Jersey at least.

In 1865, his name was canvassed, among others, for the Republican nomination for Governor, but he did not allow his name to go before the Convention, where he had many warm friends. In 1866, he was a candidate for the United States Senatorship, in competition with Fred. T. Frelinghuysen, but was defeated.

In 1870, a large and increasing portion of the Republican party of the State, looked up to him as their leader, and it is understood that in the coming contest for the U. S. Senatorship, Mr. Cobb would have been a candidate, and, probably, this time a successful one.

It would be next to impossible to recount the many magnificent deeds of charity which Mr. Cobb did during his lifetime. The Methodist Church, the Public School, and the Evergreen Cemetery, all of Morristown, are to-day, and probably will be for many generations, monuments of his

noble liberality and generosity ; but besides these numerous, less imposing but none the less important gifts were bestowed, which has caused a vast number to feel bitterly his loss. He generously assisted the poor and needy of all parties, classes or religion. None ever went from his door unhelped, and the prayers of thousands have been poured out for him.

Mr. Cobb leaves a widow, and an only child, a daughter.

#### JOHN BOYD HEADLEY,

was one of the most widely known and respected citizens of Morristown. He was a son of the late Col. Samuel F. Headley, and was born at Berwick, Columbia County, Pennsylvania, on the 22d of February, 1834. He first came to Morristown in 1854, and was for a couple of years in the employ of the Erie Railroad Company while they were engaged in constructing the tunnel, superintending a portion of the work. Afterwards he was their Freight Agent in New York city. In 1860 he went to Peoria, Illinois, and engaged in banking, in which he was very successful, amassing considerable property. Returning to New Jersey in 1862 on account of his health, he formed a co-partnership with Hon. William G. Steele of Somerville, and opened a banking and brokerage office in New York. In 1866 he retired from active business there, and having purchased a large farm in the vicinity of Morristown, devoted himself to its improvement. In 1867 he was appointed Collector of Internal Revenue for this District to succeed the late Eugene Ayres, and this position he held at the time of his death. As a Government officer Mr. Headley was prompt, accurate, energetic, and firm in the discharge of his duty, and he was regarded at the Internal Revenue Office as one of the best in the service. In all the relations of life he was highly esteemed for his many private and public virtues. That he enjoyed the unbounded confidence of such a man as Senator Cobb is no small meed of praise.

Mr. Headley was a very ardent and active politician, and probably next to Mr. Cobb, no man has done more during the past few years than he towards securing the success of the Republican party in Morris County. A ready speaker, an untiring worker, a wise and safe counsellor, he was never called upon in vain for any service that it was possible to render. He was elected to the second office in the City government at the first election under the charter, which, however, he vacated by removing outside the corporation limits before the expiration of his term. He was afterwards, in 1866, a candidate for Assembly in the First District of this County, when it contained a strong Democratic majority, and though not successful, reduced the majority to a great extent.

Mr. Headley leaves a widow and two children—one son about ten years of age, and a daughter of four.





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